

NOMINATION FOR AWARD

AWARD Outstanding Public Affairs Airman		CATEGORY (If Applicable) E-1 to E-4	AWARD PERIOD 1 Jan - 31 Dec 2002
RANK/NAME OF NOMINEE (First, Middle Initial, Last) A1C John W. Auldrige		SSN (Enter Last 4 Only) 0669	MAJCOM, FOA, OR DRU AFMC
DAFSC/DUTY TITLE Editor, Base Newspaper		NOMINEE'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial) DSN 527-3510 Comm (661) 277-3510	
UNIT/OFFICE SYMBOL/STREET ADDRESS/BASE/STATE/ZIP CODE Air Force Flight Test Center Public Affairs, 1 S Rosamond Blvd., Edwards AFB, CA 93524			
RANK/NAME OF UNIT COMMANDER (First, Middle Initial, Last)/COMMANDER'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial) Maj Gen Wilbert D. Pearson Jr. DSN 527-2140 Comm (661) 277-2140 (doug.pearson@edwards.af.mil)			
SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Use single-spaced, bullet format)			
<p>OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS AND JOB ACCOMPLISHMENT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharp, energetic, highly-motivated troop who actively seeks out challenges and quickly masters them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Despite less than one year of PA experience, aggressively tackled newspaper editor position--a job previously performed by a technical sergeant--and excelled; efforts praised by AFFTC commander -- High-powered self starter: revved into overdrive to fill manpower void created by the simultaneous loss of a technical sergeant and master sergeant; maintained newspaper's outstanding reputation -- Eager for career advancement--seized initiative to complete Career Development Course test and 5-level up-grade training in the minimum time, while still earning an impressive score of 89! - Consistently strives for perfection, never settles for 'good enough;' breathed new life into a sagging Sports Section, expanded intramural and high school sports coverage as well as developing an innovative section introducing readers to equipment and services available at the base fitness center--improved readership and encouraged fitness goals by increasing section's usability to readers - Prolific writer despite duties as sports editor and, later managing editor; published 65 stories and nearly 90 photos, many picked up by local newspapers, AFMC's Leading Edge and Air Force Link <p>LEADERSHIP/ORGANIZATIONAL AND PLANNING SKILLS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outshines and outperforms airmen of greater rank and experience; a natural leader, quickly established himself as a critical asset both to public affairs and to the base community at large <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- As newspaper editor, expertly managed a staff that included a Reserve senior NCO, displaying exceptional maturity in maintaining delicate balance between duties as manager with respect for rank -- Took initiative to serve as peer mentor to newly-assigned airman, acted as positive role model while encouraging high-quality professional development and active base community involvement -- Active participation as Dorm Council representative led to his being chosen by peers to serve as Dorm Council president, impressive considering normal PA duties often require 10-12 hour days! -- A true PA professional, A1C Auldrige has proven himself a valuable, reliable advisor to base senior leadership, developed and implemented AFFTC commander's print communication plan for enhancing public awareness of on-base speeding and driver safety; result: internal information campaign credited with increasing awareness and contributing to significant reduction in speeding <p>JUDGEMENT AND DECISIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rises to any challenge, the more pressure the better; Internal Information chief's first choice to handle high-profile, 'big-ticket' interviews that must be done right, including Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Finch during farewell visit--poise and professionalism perpetuated PA's top-notch reputation - Willing to do whatever it takes to provide exceptional PA support--pulled an 'all nighter' to develop proactive communication plan and prepare coverage of AFFTC command chief's potentially controversial drug reduction program to tag servicemembers entering Edwards for uranalysis--result: timely, in-depth coverage that laid out the key facts and shut down rumors before they got started <p>COMMUNICATION SKILLS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seized any and all opportunities to spread PA message to base people; initiated regular PA briefing to newly-assigned airmen attending First-Term Airman's Center--something had unsuccessfully tried to do since the program began; increased awareness of PA mission and how base people can support that mission while ensuring newcomers understand what they can and cannot say to media representatives - A natural communicator, enthusiastically directed internal and external coverage of high-profile base visit by actor "The Rock;" handled a nationally televised Entertainment Tonight interview with poise of a seasoned PA professional; brainstormed well-received on-camera presentation of Air Force BDU shirt; result: extremely positive, nationwide exposure for Air Force Flight Test Center and Air Force - Turned problems into opportunities; timely coverage highlighting understaffed base Honor Guard; directly credited with raising awareness and cited with recruiting 15 new volunteers--a 50% increase, enabling Honor Guard to sustain high-quality mission support despite increased operations tempo 			